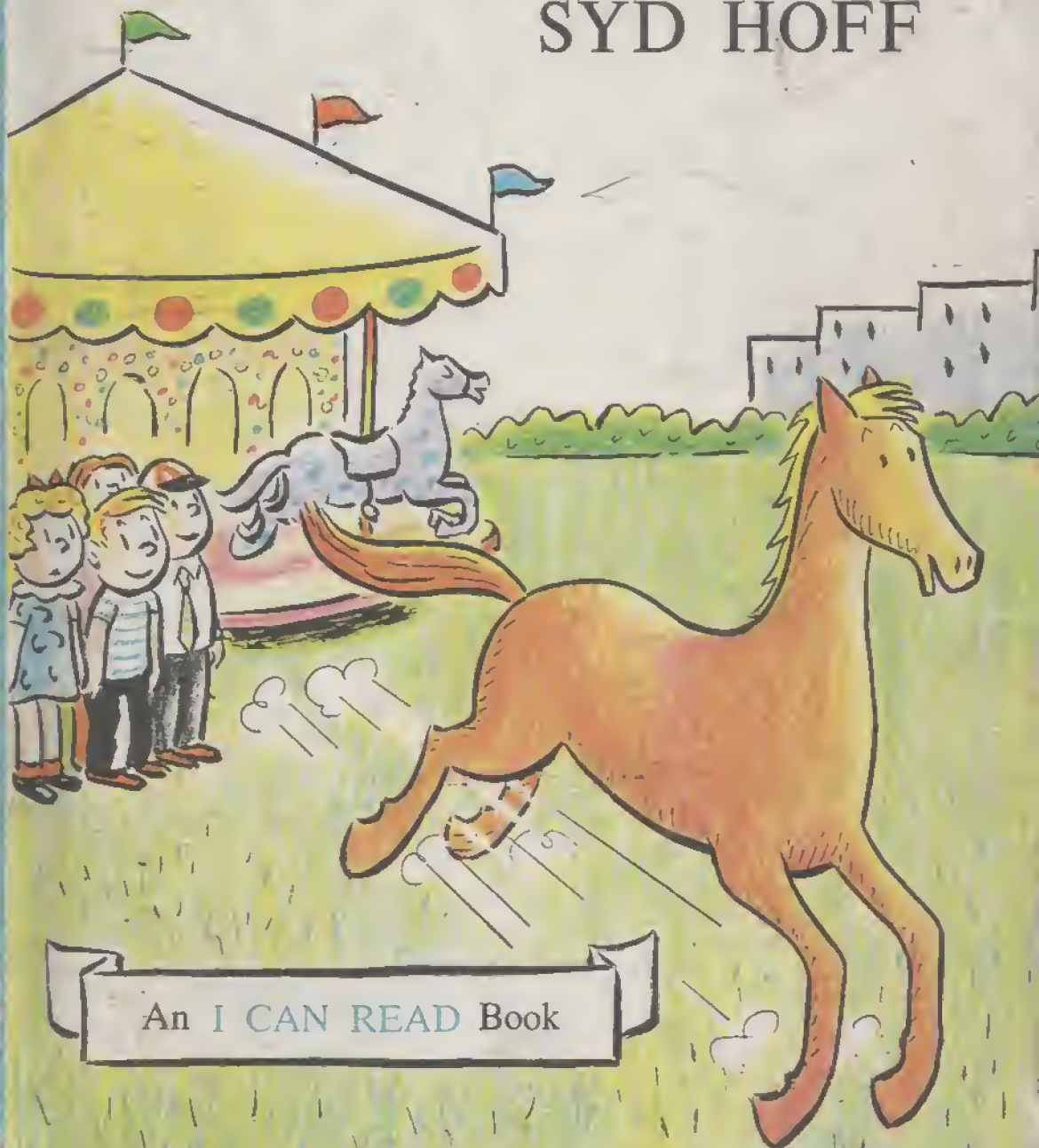


# CHESTER

*Story and pictures by*

**SYD HOFF**



An I CAN READ Book

J. T. Looney  
2580 Docks Creek Rd.  
Kenova, WV 25530

Kellogg Elementary School  
4415 Piedmont Rd.  
Huntington, WV







Weekly Reader Books presents

# CHESTER

*Story and pictures by* SYD HOFF

An I CAN READ Book

HARPER & ROW, PUBLISHERS

*New York, Evanston, and London*

This book is a presentation of Weekly Reader Books.  
Weekly Reader Books offers book clubs for children from  
preschool through junior high school.

For further information write to:

**Weekly Reader Books**  
1250 Fairwood Ave.  
Columbus, Ohio 43216

CHESTER

*Copyright © 1961 by Syd Hoff*

All rights reserved. Printed in the United States of America. No part of this book may be used or reproduced in any manner whatsoever without written permission except in the case of brief quotations embodied in critical articles and reviews. For information address Harper & Row, Publishers, Inc., 10 East 53rd Street, New York, N.Y. 10022.

*Library of Congress catalog card number: 61-5768*

Standard Book Number 06-022455-X (Trade Edition)

Standard Book Number 06-022456-8 (Harpercrest Edition)



Chester was a wild horse.

He lived out West  
with other wild horses.

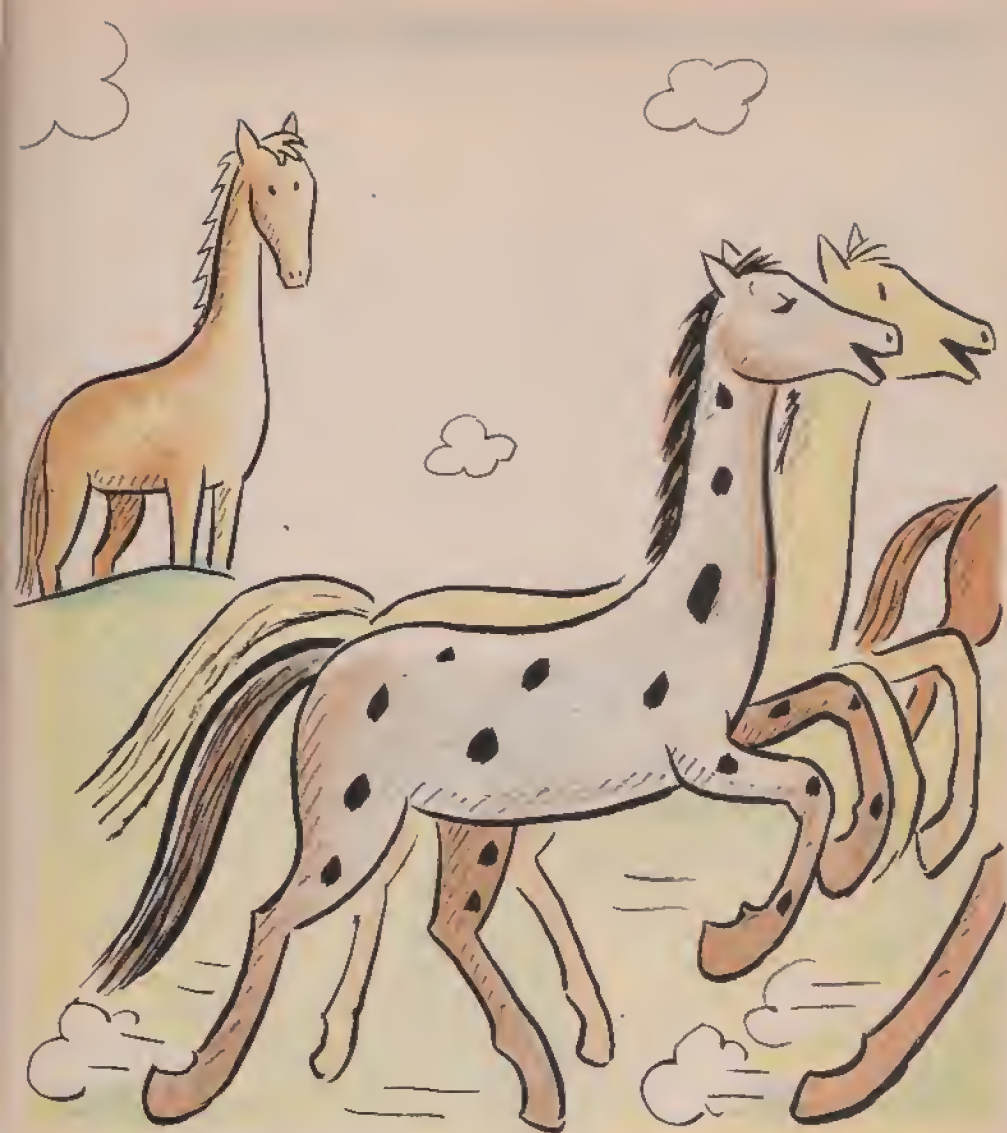




"I wish someone loved me,"  
said Chester.

"I wish someone took care of me."





“You are silly,”

said the other horses.

“It is fun to be wild.”



One day men came with ropes.

They were looking for wild horses.



“I am glad to see you,”  
said Chester.

“Please put a rope on me.”



“That horse cannot run,”  
said the men.

“We do not want him.”





They took all the other horses.

They did not take Chester.



“No one wants me either,”  
said a skunk.



“I think I know why,”  
said Chester.  
He left in a hurry.





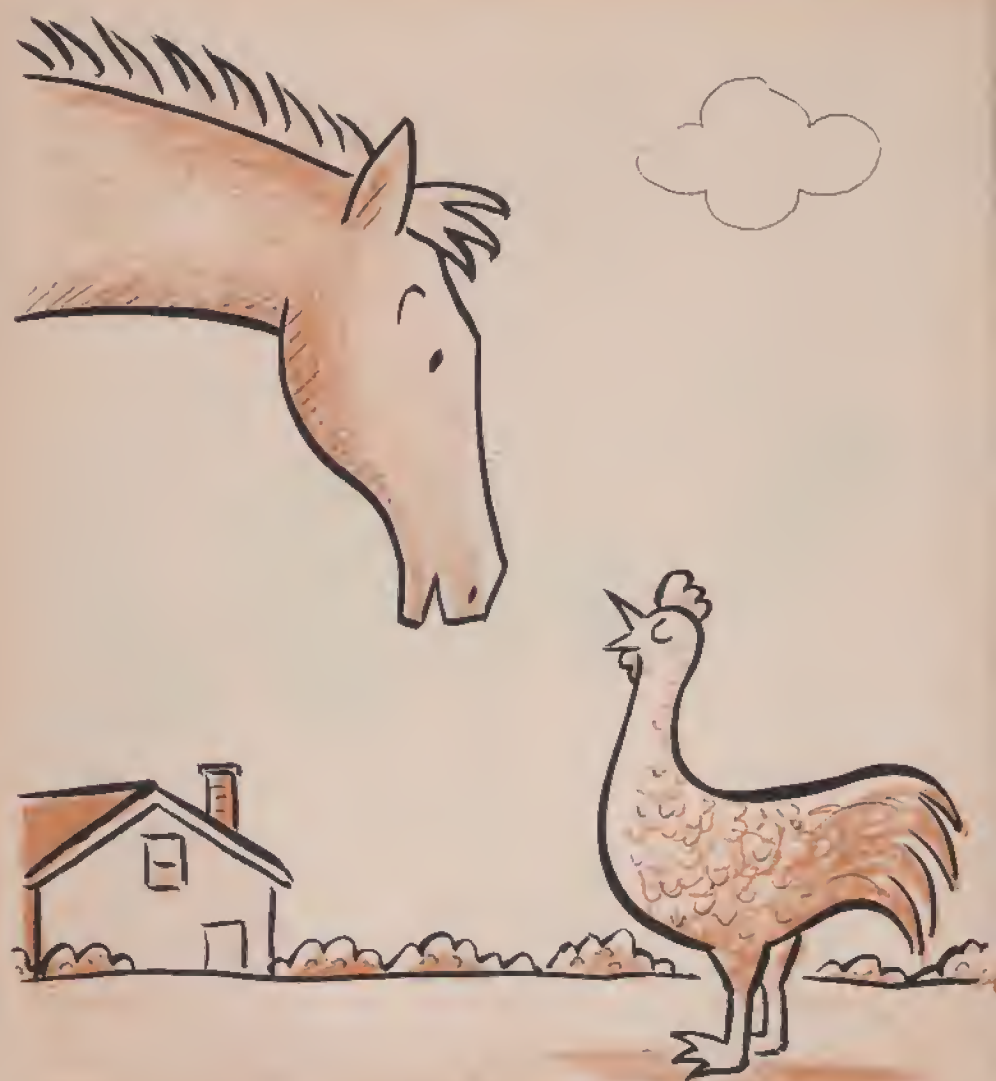
Chester ran and ran.

He came to a farm.

“Maybe someone here wants me,”  
he said.



“You can’t give milk,”  
said a cow.



“You can’t lay eggs,”  
said a hen.



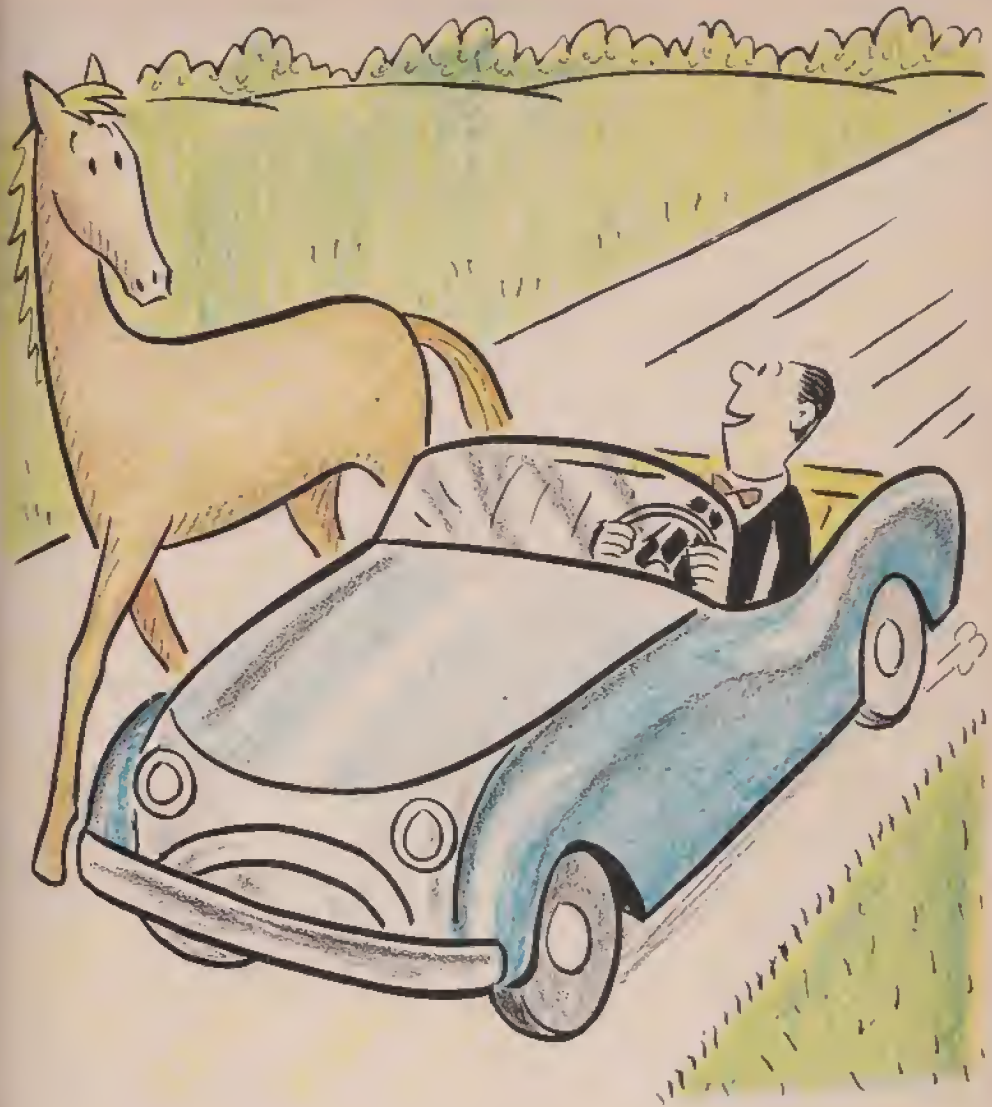
“And I pull the wagon around here,”  
said a white horse.



“Good-by,” said Chester.

He walked down the road.





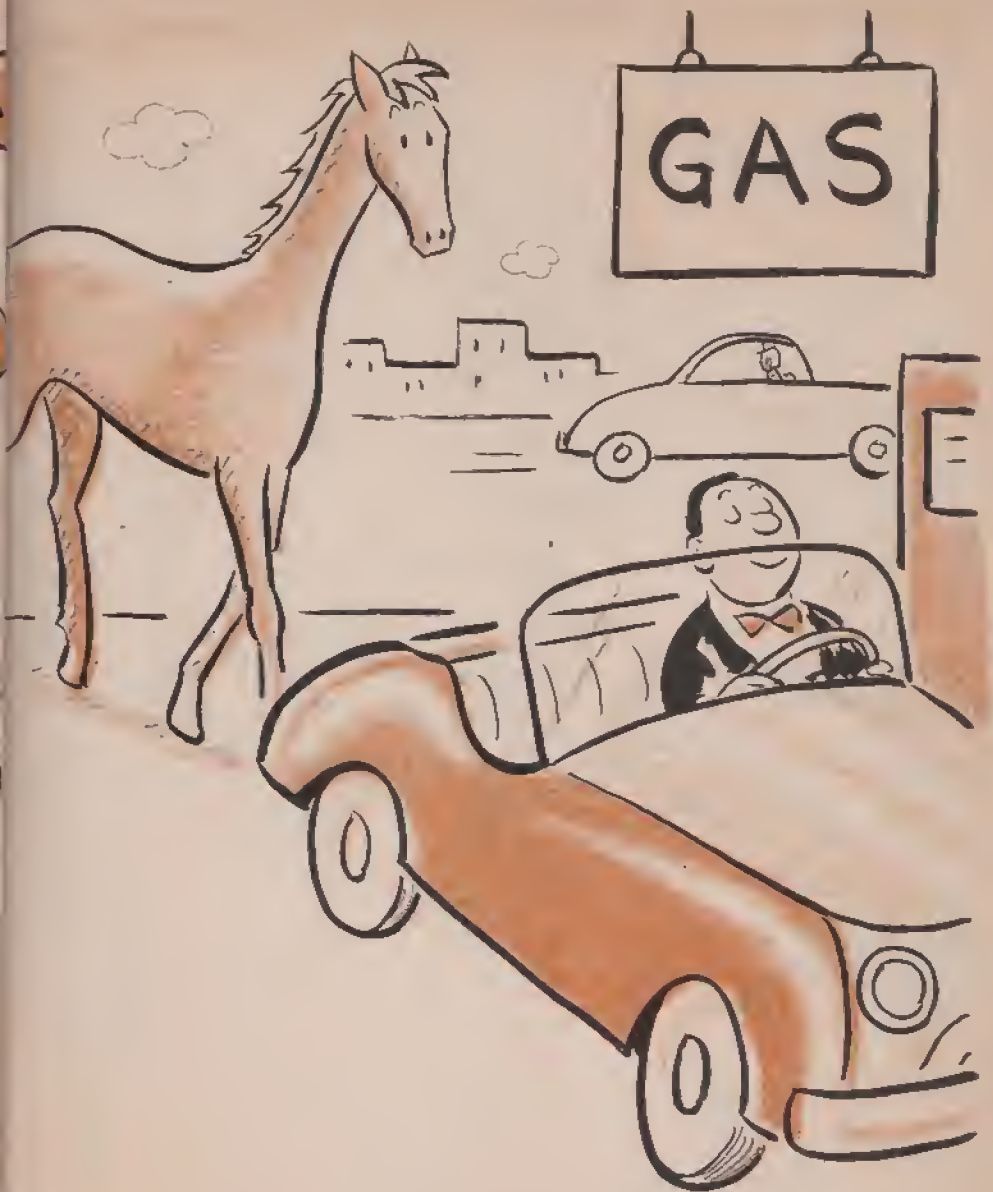
A car came by.

“This car has 250 horse power,”  
said the man in the car.



“I have one horse power,”  
said Chester.





The car stopped at a gas station.

Chester stopped too.



"I'll have ten gallons of gas,"  
said the man.

"I'll have ten gallons of water,"  
said Chester.



Chester saw a sign.

"I am hungry," he said.



“Oh, dear, I did not  
see the first letter.

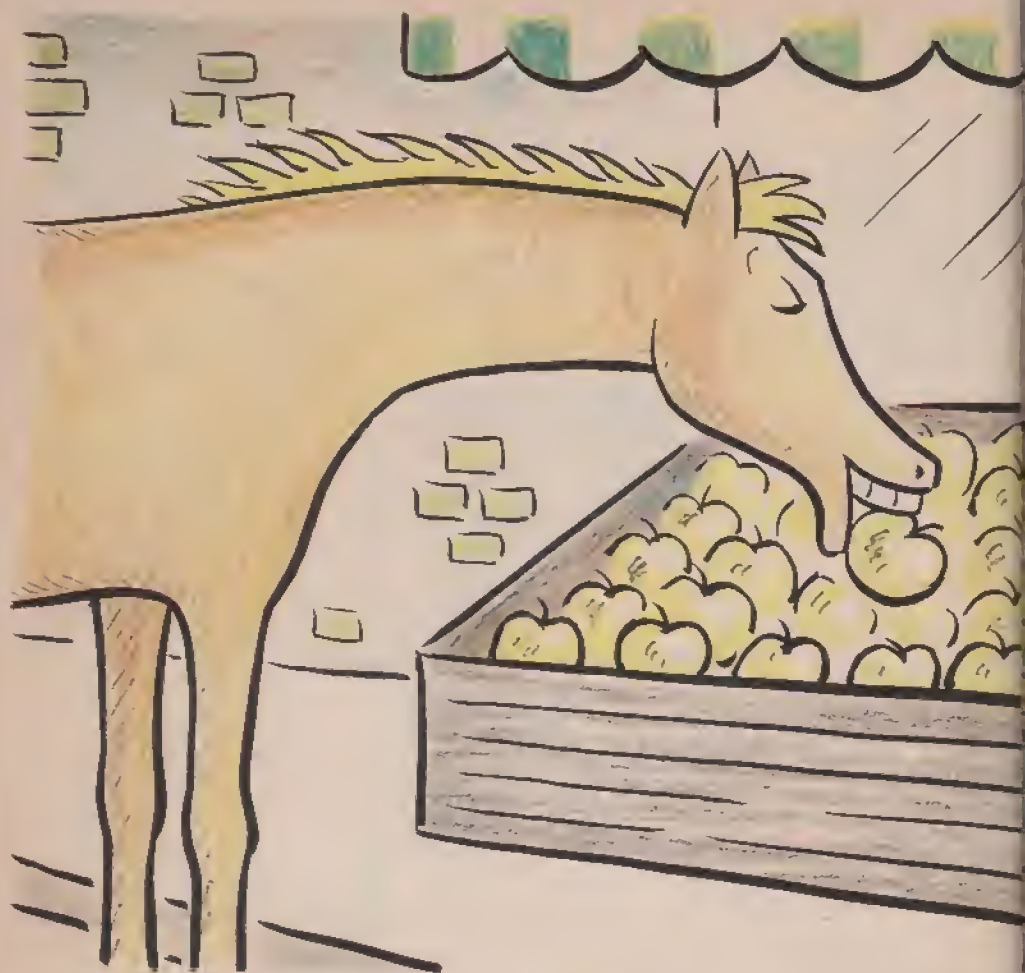
I cannot eat ‘COATS,’”  
said Chester.



Chester saw a fruit store.

"I'll have a pound of apples,"  
said a lady.





"I'll have a pound too,"  
said Chester.

"Can you pay for them?"  
said the man.

"No," said Chester.



"Then come back when you can pay,"  
said the man.

"All right," said Chester.

"Your apples are good."





Chester looked in a house.

A lady was having tea.

“How much sugar do you want?”

she said.



“As much as I can have,”  
said Chester.



Chester went by a toy store.

"I wish I had a rocking horse,"  
said a child.



"I can be a rocking horse,"  
said Chester. "Look!"



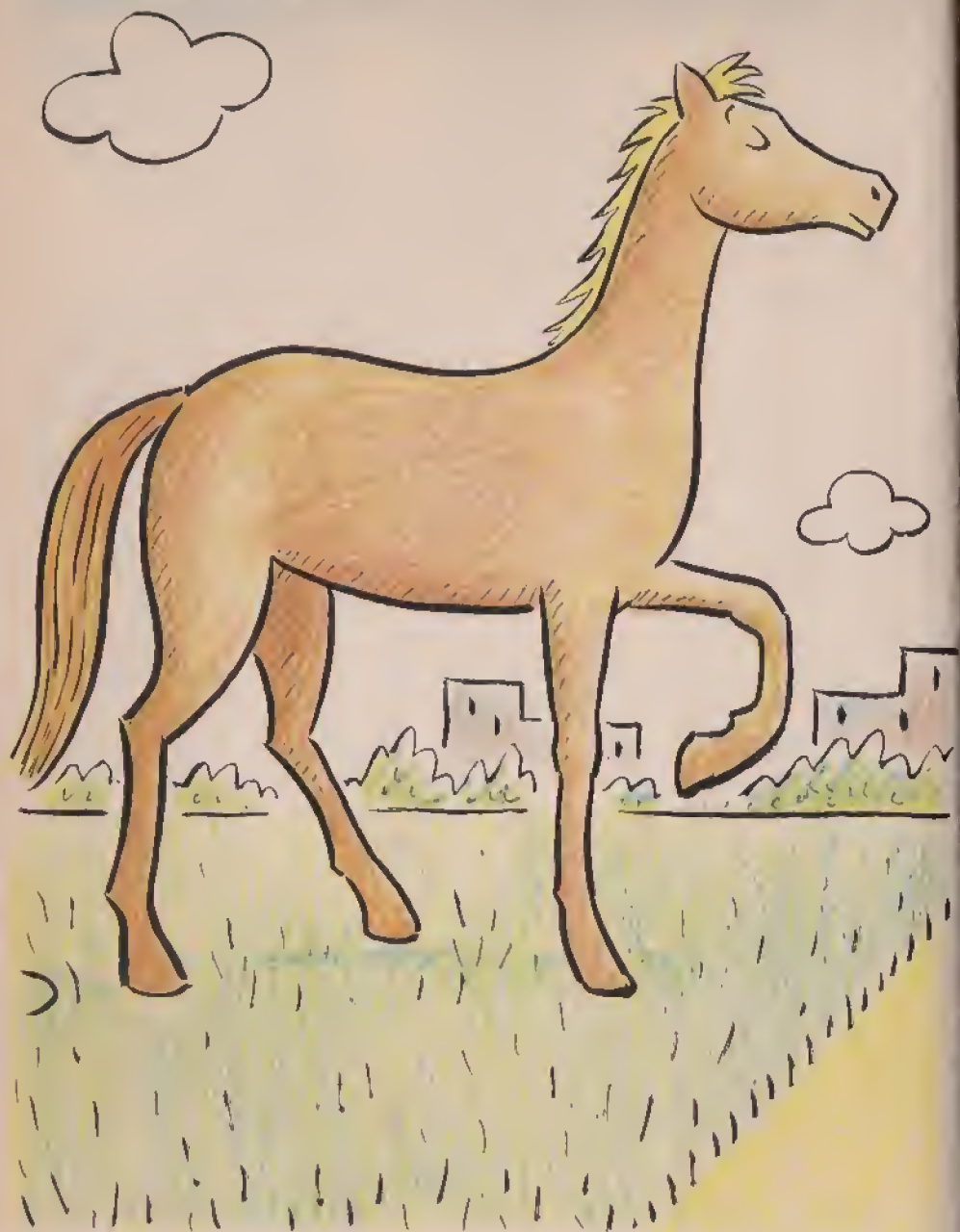
“You are too big for our house,”  
said the mother.





Chester saw a statue of a horse.

“Maybe I can be a statue,” he said.



He stood very still.





All the people thought he was a statue.



All the birds thought he was a statue.



Chester saw a lady  
with a feather in her hat.



“I will sneeze  
if that feather touches my nose,”  
said Chester.



The feather touched his nose.





“AH-CHOO!”

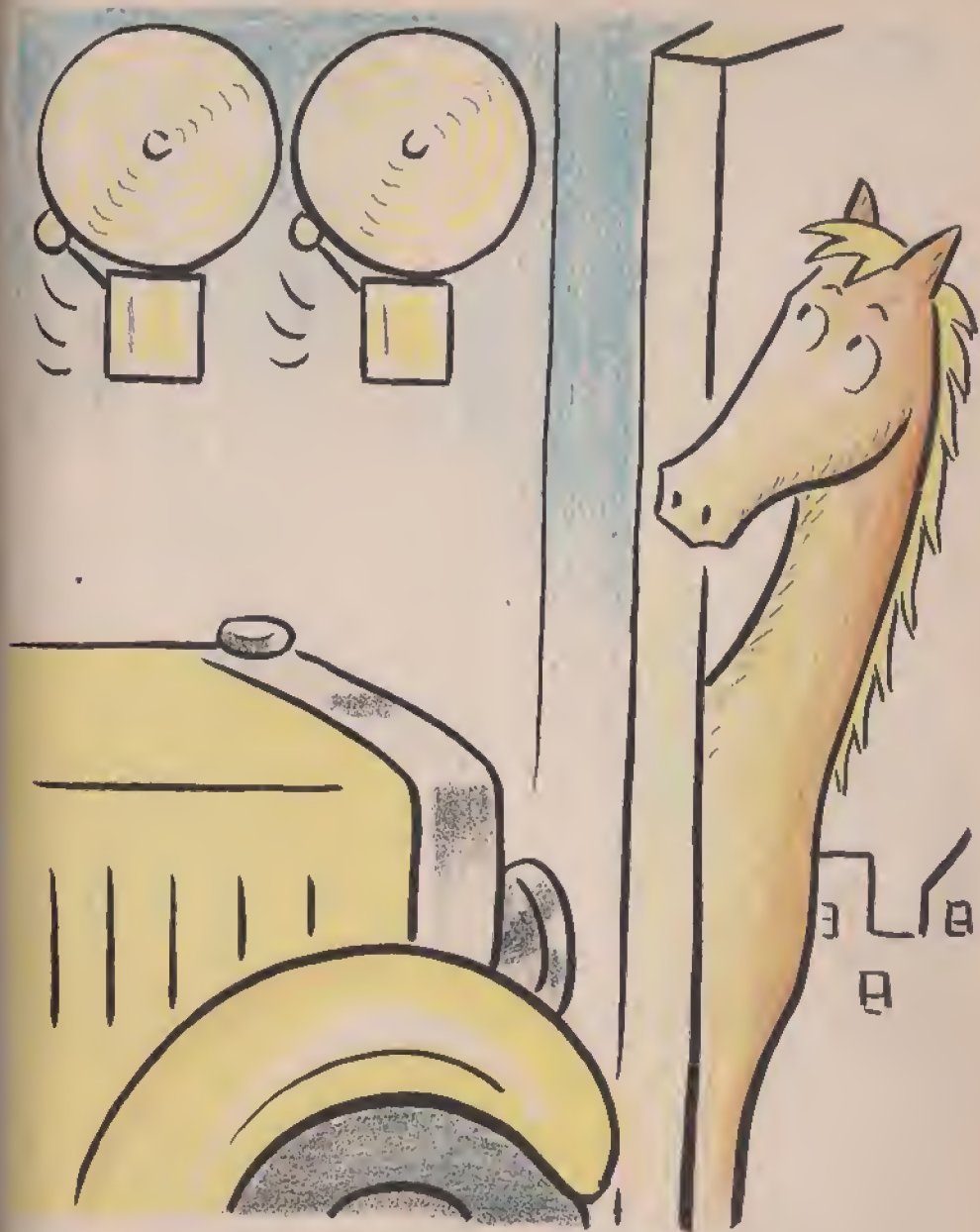


“Statues don’t sneeze,”  
said the birds and the people.  
“Horses do,” said Chester.  
He walked away.



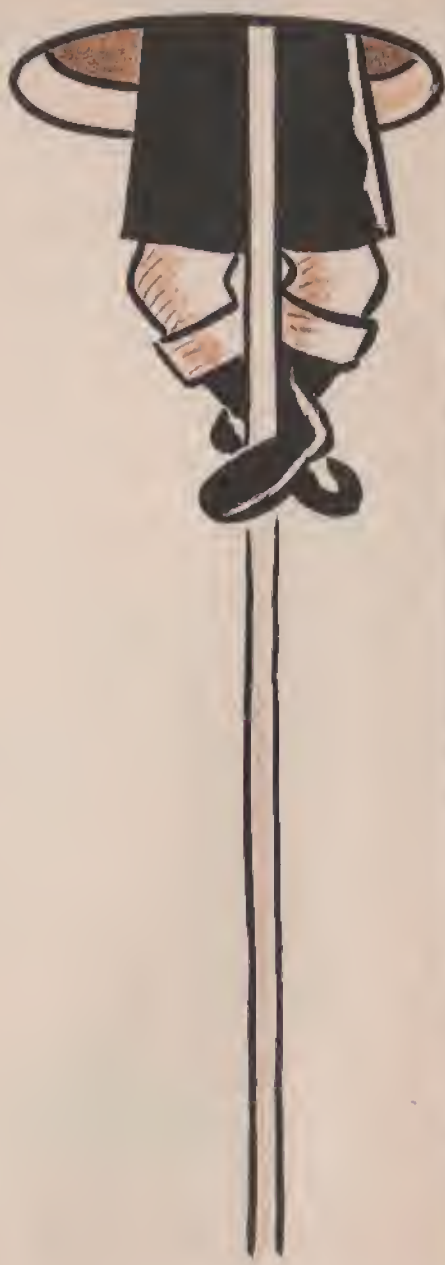
Chester walked by a fire house.

"Long ago horses pulled the fire engines,"  
said a man.



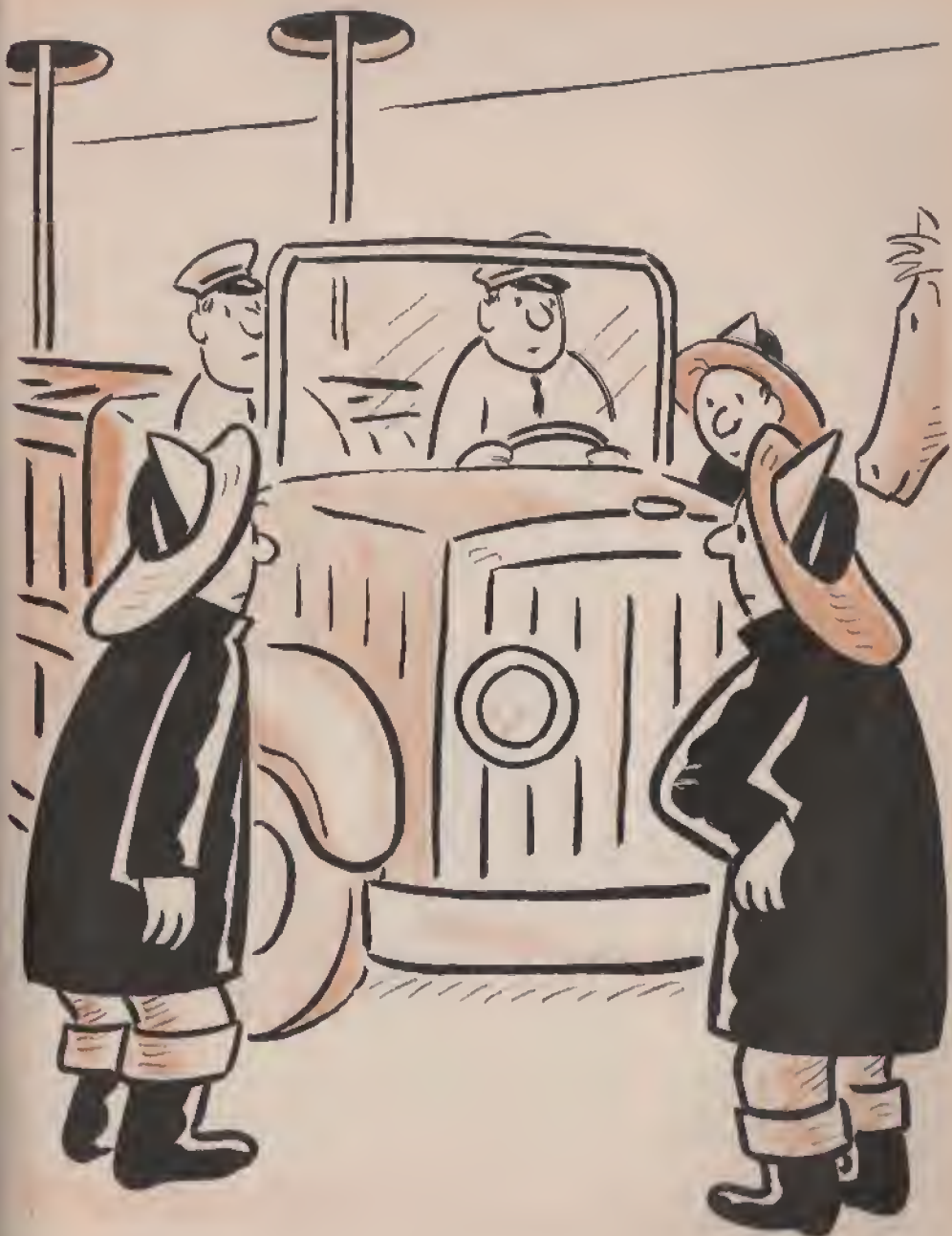
The bells rang!

There was a fire some place.

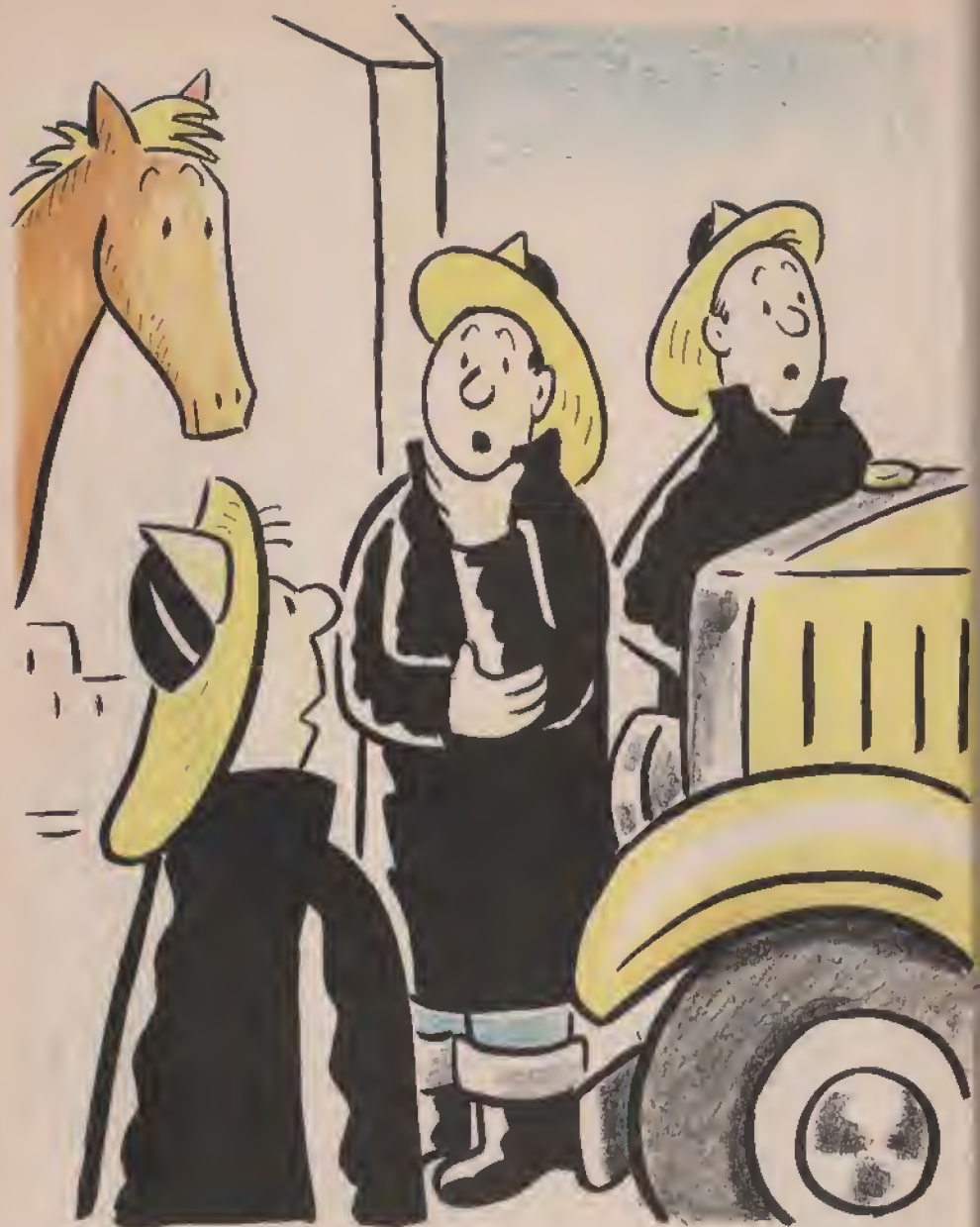


Down the poles came the firemen.



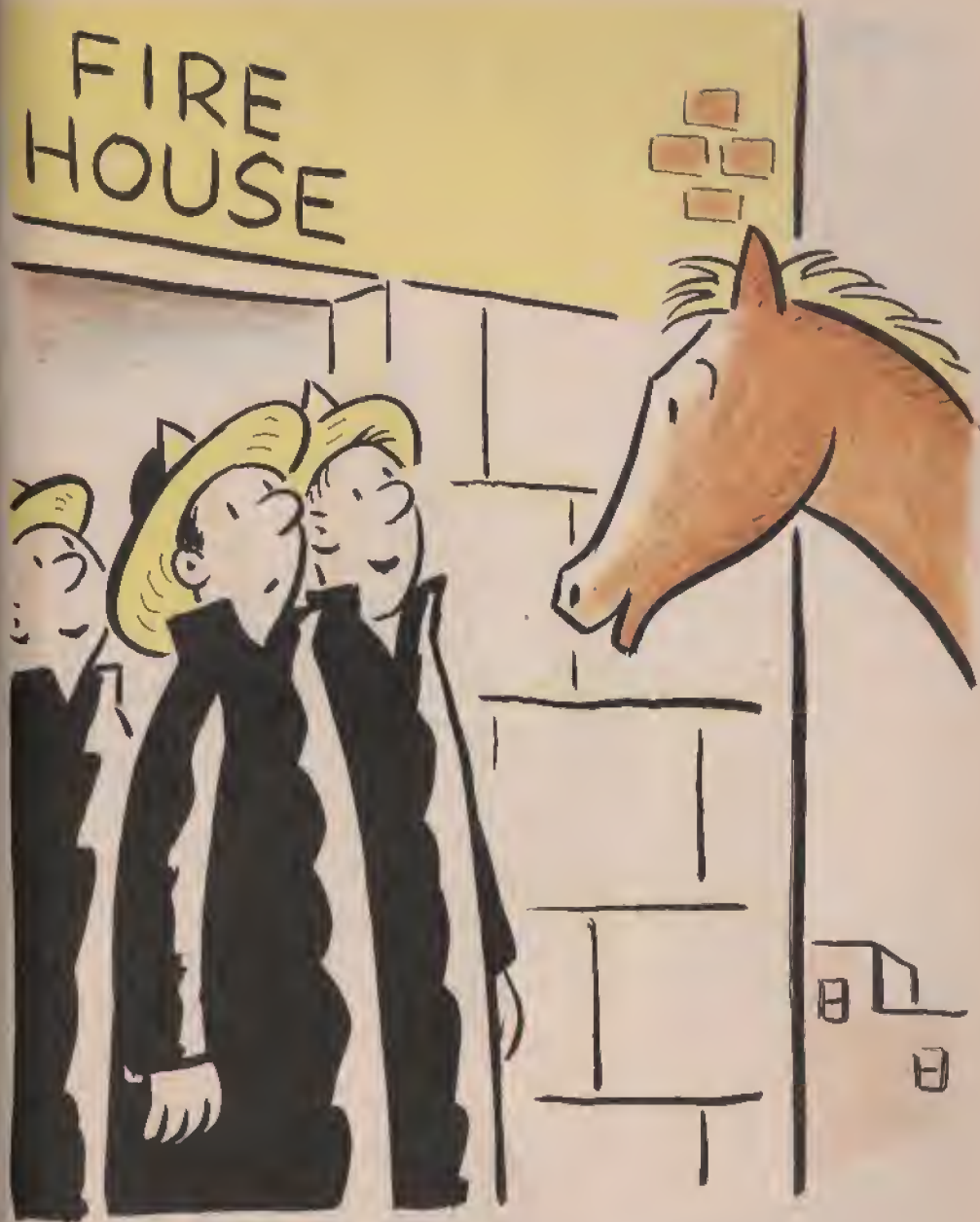


They could not start the engine.



“What will we do?”

said the firemen.



"I will get you there in time,"  
said Chester.



Down the street they went.

“Clang! Clang! Clang!”

said Chester.





He got them there in time.





"Thank you," said the firemen.

"The engine is running again.

We do not need you now."



Chester walked and walked.

He saw a merry-go-round.



"I think they need me here,"  
he said.



The children ran to the horses.





One little boy got on Chester.





Around and around they went!

The children loved the ride.

So did Chester.



The ride ended.

The children got off the horses.



“My horse was real,”  
said the little boy.



“He was not real,”  
said the children.

“Merry-go-round horses  
are never real.”





“A real horse runs  
when you say ‘Giddyap!’”  
said one child.

“Let’s say it,”  
said another child.





They all said it together.

“GIDDYAP!”



Chester ran.



He ran and ran and ran.

The men with ropes saw him.

“Whoa!” they said.



“Do you still want to come with us?”  
said the men.

“Yes,” said Chester.





They took him to a bright, clean stable.  
All the other horses were there.





“You were right, Chester,”  
said the horses.

“It is fun here.

It is nice to be loved  
and cared for.”



"That makes sense," said Chester.

"Good horse sense."



# "Color It" Reading Funhouse

Especially  
for  
Weekly  
Reader  
Children's  
Book  
Club  
Members



Made of sturdy corrugated cardboard for durability, this little house comes ready-to-color. Big enough for two or three youngsters, it's a great place for children to have fun — or curl up with a good book. It's just the thing for rainy-day activities. Easy-to-follow instructions make assembly simple. **Only \$10.95.**

To order your Funhouse, please send your name, address and check or money order made out to *Weekly Reader Books* for \$10.95 to:

**Weekly Reader Children's Book Club**  
1250 Fairwood Avenue  
P.O. Box 16717  
Columbus, Ohio 43216

Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery.

© Weekly Reader Books 1981 Printed in U.S.A.

F/W163

Kellogg Elementary School  
4415 Piedmont Rd.  
Huntington, WV

Syd Hoff  
Chester

DATE	NAME
9-22-98	Carole Ann
8-31-99	Savannah
7-11-01	Patricia
10-25-01	Haley
3-15-02	Brindee



Weekly Reader Books